657 drinking water in the *kandi illaqa* ; and the reconstruction of the bridge over the Tawi at Jammu. The concessions then announced have materialized, and the beneficent activities of the Government have increased year after year.

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641 647 During His present Highness' term of office as Senior Member of the then State Council, His late Highness had issued orders to provide for (1) employment of State-subjects only to all ordinary vacancies, and (2) grant of lands for house building and other purposes to State-subjects only ; and a Committee of official and non-official members had been appointed to suggest a definition of the term State-subject for the purpose of these orders. The definition proposed by the Committee was accepted by His Highness, and it protects the children of the soil in the matter of recruitment to Government services and several other privileges against outsiders.

658 A committee had been appointed in 1923 to consider the future requirements of the different departments in technical qualifications and experience, and make proposals for grant of scholarships for training to qualified State-subjects. This committee was reconstituted in 1927 as the Scholarship Selection Board. In recent years, thirty qualified State-subjects selected by the Board have received training in several institutions in Europe and America and British India in Civil Engineering, Architecture and Town Planning, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Pharmaceutics, Horticulture, Sericulture, Forestry, Printing, Law and Public administration ; and most of them are now in Government service. Training, academic and technical, has also been given in Indian institutions to over 275 State-subjects. Lump sum provision has been made in the budget since 1937-38 for grant of loans to persons desirous of prosecuting advanced studies or undergoing advanced or special training in India or abroad and out of this provision, loans of over Rs. 70,000 have been granted so far to a number of State-subjects for training in Forestry, Chemistry, Mathematics, Medicine, Public Health etc., in England and for Accounts, Law and Post-graduate studies in India.

His Highness also impressed upon the Heads of

657 To insure against food scarcity that had previously
623 threatened the village areas in Kashmir Province, the *panchayats* in Kashmir Province collected in S. 1999, 60,000 *kharwars* of *shali* and maize on *khush-kharid* basis for use in times of scarcity.

With a view to minimizing the migration of unskilled workers from Kashmir Valley to the plains in the winter for work and finding suitable productive work in the State itself for the men who migrate and as near their homes as possible, the Rural Development Department was entrusted with investigating the matter and preparing lists of men who migrate and the kinds of work suited to them. With the help of the *panchayats*, the Department was able to submit the details to the Government within a very short time of a month and a half. On the basis of this information, the Government appointed a committee for devising schemes calculated to provide labour to such labourers. As a result of the recommendations of the committee, Government sanctioned several schemes for providing employment to large numbers of people.

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656 Nor have the interests of the masses of the urban population which include manufacturers and traders, artisans and craftsmen, owners of house-boats and boatmen and skilled and unskilled labourers been lost
• 658 sight of. Primary education for boys has been made free and compulsory in the cities and important towns. As recommended by the Glancy Commission, the fees previously imposed on visitors to the Mughal Gardens near
651 Srinagar were abolished. Taxes on boat-men have in certain cases been reduced or remitted, and sites for mooring of house-boats have been provided either at
444 cheap rates or free of rent. An industrial exhibition
543 has been held at Srinagar annually since 1929. The exhibition attracts a large number of people including visitors, with the result that not only have there been greater sales, but there has been marked improvement in the variety and the finish of the goods produced. In order to provide assistance in the marketing of goods manufactured in the State, an Industrial Museum and Sales Emporium was opened at Srinagar towards the end of 1941. A similar institution has been started at Jammu also.

361 Planning Department advises the Town Area Committees with regard to their Town Planning problems. Special surveys for the development of important holiday centres like Sonamarg in Kashmir Province and Sanasar in Jammu Province are being carried out.

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658 Education has made very great advance in recent years. University education is received by over 2,400 pupils including a number of girls, in the colleges maintained by the Government at the capital cities, and is very cheap. The Sri Pratap College, Srinagar, has been split into two separate colleges, viz., an Intermediate College and a Degree College, in order to remove congestion and improve the standard of the teaching. Pre-University education has been practically free. The Compulsory Primary Education Act was passed in 1930 and as stated above, primary education for boys is free and compulsory in cities and important towns. Books are supplied free to boys of primary classes throughout the State on a very generous scale. Secondary education is free, except in a few High Schools in the capital cities and Mirpur town, and even in these schools, only about 33 per cent. of the boys pay fee and the rest are free scholars. Liberal scholarships have been provided to encourage education. In addition to this, special grants are included in the budget every year for scholarships to pupil belonging to educationally backward or poorer communities. Special scholarships have also been ear-marked for students from the Frontier district who read in the high schools or the colleges at Srinagar and for girl students reading in colleges within the State or outside.

Since 1925, the number of pupils in Government and aided educational institutions has increased from 44,601 by about 165 per cent., to over 1,18,000; the number of the institutions from 706 by over 167 per cent. to 1,888 and the expenditure on education from Rs. 10.75 lakhs by over 144 per cent. to Rs. 26.24 lakhs. Although the pace of education has thus been accelerated, much still remains to be done, and His Highness' Government are quite alive to their responsibilities in the matter. Following the publication of the report of the Basic Education Committee (popularly known as the Wardha Committee),

His Highness' Government appointed an Educational Reorganization Committee under the presidentship of Mr. K. G. Saiyidain, Director of Education and an eminent educationist who had served on the Basic Education Committee and with Dr. Zakir Hussain, who was the Chairman of that Committee as one of the members, to examine the suitability and adequacy of the existing system of primary and secondary education in the State and make recommendations for its improvement. The new schemes recommended by the Committee included besides acceleration of the pace of educational expansion at the primary stage, the introduction of Basic education in which craft teaching and book learning are closely integrated. 658

In pursuance of the scheme for the introduction of Basic education, a number of ordinary Primary schools were converted into Basic schools.

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A well-equipped Medical Department is rendering medical aid to the people. In recent years, several qualified doctors were deputed for higher training in different branches of medicine and surgery to British Universities and the medical staff today includes doctors with high specialized and general qualifications. The number of civil hospitals and dispensaries wholly maintained by the Government is 92. Besides, there are 4 Mission hospitals which receive aid from the Government. A grant-in-aid was also sanctioned by the Government in favour of the Kashmir National Hospital and Maternity Home in Srinagar. To supplement the existing arrangements for providing medical relief to the people, the Government have undertaken the appointment of subsidized practitioners in rural areas. Under this scheme, there are at present 70 practitioners practising in rural areas and receiving subsidies from the Government. Recently the construction of 2 new hospitals, one at Srinagar and the other at Jammu, was started. The hospital at Jammu was completed at the close of the last year at a cost of over Rs. 8 lakhs, and opened by His Highness in April 1943. His Highness also opened a well-equipped hospital at Mirpur. The hospital at Srinagar, estimated to cost over 744